



January 2012

international

DATELINE

FIWAL THE FEDERATION OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S ASSOCIATIONS IN LONDON

C/O THE LANSDOWNE CLUB • 9 FITZMAURICE PLACE • BERKELEY SQUARE • LONDON W1X 6JD

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear FIWAL members,

It is hard to believe that a few days ago, we rung in the New Year. The excitement of London hosting the 2012 summer Olympics is near palpable - now only a matter of months away. Londoners will be welcoming the world to this great city that we are privileged to call home. There is much talk of the opportunity to meet those of other cultures from other lands - exactly what FIWAL has offered its member clubs for more than twenty-five years!



Reflecting on the past few months, I have particularly enjoyed making new friends and learning about cultures different from my Canadian roots. Besides various organizational meetings, there have been several very enjoyable FIWAL member club sponsored outings. As well, we have had two delightful FIWAL events. Both our annual Presidents' luncheon and our Christmastea were truly lovely, in all respects. I wish to express my sincere thanks to the executive committee members who kindly stepped forward to ensure that these events were well attended and so beautifully presented.

Our guest speaker at the Presidents' luncheon, Nancy Durrell-McKeena certainly opened our eyes to the need for improved maternal/infant care and how her charity, Safe Hands for Mothers is doing just that. In case you missed this event, would like to contact Nancy or would like additional information, I would heartily recommend you visit her website: www.safehands.org. Nancy, a professional photographer, has posted some amazing clips of their work.

Learning about the positive change that Nancy is bringing about in parts of Africa seemed rather fitting in that some weeks earlier, the FIWAL executive committee identified 'social entrepreneurship' as the theme for our 2012 Conference. Please mark 30 April in your new diaries. More details will be available shortly.

Although it can be difficult to keep up with the news over the holiday season, I did find myself noticing the work of many women endeavouring to better our world. German Chancellor, Angela Merkel is one among six women EU leaders trying to resolve problems in the Eurozone. Danish born EU Climate Commissioner, Connie Hedegaard brokered the deal that saved the Durban Climate Conference where former Irish President, Mary Robinson spoke out about the need to support women who comprise 40% of the global labour force and are responsible for 60-80% of food production in Africa. Also, in December, the Nobel Peace prize was awarded to the Liberian president Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, her colleague Leymah Gbowee and the Yemeni campaigner Tawakkol Karman.

The initiatives undertaken by these women among others are truly remarkable. Undoubtedly, they are inspiring future generations of young women to address global problems. Yet, I would suggest that we too are being asked to step forward - to deepen our understanding of different cultures and global problems so that we may be able to contribute to a better world. The purpose/mission of FIWAL has never been clearer.

In closing, I would like to extend my best wishes for a happy, healthy 2012 to you and yours. I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming conference.

With every good wish,

Margaret Wickware

FIWAL WEBSITE: www.fiwal.org.uk

FIWAL PAST EVENTS

FIWAL PRESIDENTS' LUNCH

The FIWAL Presidents' Lunch was well attended by 48 member club presidents and representatives and members.

Nancy Durrell-McKeena, guest speaker at the Presidents' luncheon, certainly opened everyone's eyes to the need for improved

maternal/infant care and described the work of her charity, Safe Hands for Mothers.



Margaret Wickware, Fiwal's Presidents addresses the guests at the Fiwal Presidents' Luncheon



Nancy Durrell-McKeena, Safe Hands for Mothers, guest speaker at the Fiwal Presidents' Luncheon

CHRISTMAS TEA

FIWAL representatives and guests gathered at the home of Salwa Myassi to celebrate the holidays together. Once again it was a joyous occasion with an intimate setting that was the perfect way to celebrate the holidays together.



Margaret Wickware, Fiwal's Presidents (left) presents a flower bouquet to Salwa Myassi (right)



Guests sing Christmas carols accompanied with piano.



Guests sing Christmas carols.

CLUB ACTIVITIES 2012

Thursday, 12th January

Kensington Chelsea Women's Club General Meeting

Start the new year off by attending the general meeting of the KCWC with guest speaker, Tracy Lawson. Tracy will discuss her book, A Year in the Village of Eternity which chronicles the lives of the inhabitants of a village in Italy where life expectancy is extraordinarily higher than that of other Europeans. If you cannot attend the January meeting, try to come along to other monthly meetings. For dates and more info log onto www.kcwk.org.uk.

Tuesday, 17th January

FOCUS: Introduction to Career Development Programme

Are you new to the UK and looking for work? Want to go back to work but not sure what to do? This seminar will outline the tools FOCUS has to offer in helping you determine your career goals and kick-start your way to successful job searching.

Pre-registration is essential as this is a very popular seminar! To register log onto www.focus-info.org or call 0207 937 7799. Advance payment is required by cash, cheque or credit card

Friday, 20th January

Junior League of London Tarts and Tartans Event

A fantastic fundraising evening! Get your kilts on, invite your friends and come along for a Scottish-inspired evening. Tickets are £15 each and available through the JLL e-store at www.jll.org.uk. Funds raised support the Junior League of London.

Sunday, 22nd January

Canadian Women's Club Family Skate

A great event for everyone brave enough to take to the ice on a pair of skates. From 4:00 - 7:30 pm join the CWC for ice skating followed by the Shiny Hockey game at 7.30pm. Kids must be over 4 years of age to skate, and kids between 4-7 years must be accompanied by an adult. Cost for the Skating is £15 per person, includes skate rental and food. For registration contact Solange Dunn at info@mapleleaftrust.org or 0207 258 6344.

Monday, 23rd January

The Commonwealth Countries League President's Coffee Morning

Stephanie Williams, Canadian born author of the book 'Running the Show, Governors of the Empire' will speak about the eccentric, difficult and amusing incidents which befell Governors' ladies. Join this

fascinating discussion starting at 11am at the Anthenaem. Donation of £15 per person.

To register please contact Louisa Service, OBE at 35 Elsworthy Road NW3 3BT with a self-addressed envelope with cheque payable to CCL

Monday, 23rd, 30th January

FOCUS: Top Tips UK

We welcome you to join us for an informative and light hearted presentation of top tips, sharing our knowledge of living in this vibrant, multi-cultural metropolis. Information covered will include healthcare, transportation, socialising, British culture, education and more.

This is held over two sessions from 10.30am to 12.30pm (the second of which is dedicated to Life in the UK with children).

To register log onto www.focus-info.org or call 0207 937 7799.

Advance payment is required by cash, cheque or credit card

Wednesday, 1st February

FOCUS: Working for the Voluntary Sector in the UK

Are you interested in working for a charity? Not sure how the Voluntary Sector works in the UK? Join us for a very informative seminar with Elaine Smethurst from 10.30am to 12.30pm. To register log onto www.focus-info.org or call 0207 937 7799. Advance payment is required by cash, cheque or credit card

Tuesday, 7th February

FOCUS: The ABCs of Taxes for Americans in the UK

Bruce Jaffe, President of Jaffe & Co/American Tax International will be running this seminar on essential US and UK tax issues for US nationals living in the UK. Frequently asked questions will be covered from 6.30 to 8.30pm. To register log onto www.focus-info.org or call 0207 937 7799.

Advance payment is required by cash, cheque or credit card

Wednesday, 8th February

FOCUS: Speak Up, Speak Out- Public Speaking Workshop

FOCUS is delighted to welcome back Christine de Cruz of SpeakersTrust to deliver a very interactive workshop on Public Speaking from 10am to 1pm.

To register log onto www.focus-info.org or call 0207 937 7799.

Advance payment is required by cash, cheque or credit card

CLUB ACTIVITIES 2012—Cont.

Tuesday, 14th February

Canadian Women's Club:

Maple Leaf Trust Luncheon Series

In celebration of the Canadian Women's Club 80th Anniversary the High Commissioner for Canada, Gordon Campbell and Mrs Nancy Campbell are pleased to host the Maple Leaf Trust Luncheon Series with guest speaker Debs Goodenough, Head Gardener to HRH Prince of Wales & Duchess of Cornwall at Highgrove

Starts at 12:30pm at the Official Residence, 3 Grosvenor Square, London W1K4AB.

£50 per ticket. For information contact:

Solange MacAlister Office Administrator Maple Leaf Trust at info@mapleleaftrust.org or telephone +44 020 7258 6344

Wednesday, 15th February

Welcome to London International Club

Enjoy a Valentine's Day Coffee morning at Salwa Mayassi's residence from 11.00 am to 2.00 pm on the 15th February, with entertainment.

£25 per person, please contact Jenny Habib at 01442 873029 or j.habib@ntlworld.com

Tuesday, 21st February

FOCUS: Navigating the Recruitment Process in the UK

This seminar will give you insight into the UK recruitment sector including the dos and don'ts of working with recruiters.

Join Julia Cripps of Riverhouse Research who has over ten years of experience working in executive recruitment. from 11am to 1pm. To register log onto www.focus-info.org or call 0207 937 7799.

Advance payment is required by cash, cheque or credit card

Saturday, 24th March

Kensington Chelsea Women's Club: The Annual KCWC Easter Party

Join KCWC for this fun event from 1 to 4pm at the Chelsea Hall of Remembrance, Flood Street SW3 5YS.

For more information log onto www.kcwc.org.uk

Tuesday, 15th May

Australian Women's Club:

International Coffee Morning

Be sure to mark your diaries for this annual event, to be held from 10.30 am at the Downer Room, Australian High Commission. A donation of £10 will be collected at the door with proceeds going to The CCL Education Fund.

FIWAL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FIWAL 2012 Conference

Mark you calendars and join us for the Annual FIWAL Conference with dynamic speakers presenting their strides in Social Entrepreneurship. We are delighted to hold the full day event at The Mayfair Hotel.

Please plan on attending the fantastic event that is sure to be inspiring. Details to be announced!!!

Date: Monday, 30th April 2012

Venue: The Mayfair Hotel

Time: 9.30am to 4.30pm

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The next issue of "Dateline" will be published in Spring 2012. Please ensure that all club information reaches the "Dateline" editor

Barbara Rees, email reesbarbara@yahoo.com

no later than 15 March 2012